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Fisheries

Issue of salt for fish-curing purposes.

* 1542 *Q.*—Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the rate at which salt is being supplied to fish-curing yards;

(*b*) the rate recommended by the Director of Fisheries; and

(*c*) the reason why no decision has been arrived at by Government in spite of the recommendations of the Legislative Council?

A.—(*a*) Rupees 1–4–0 per maund.

(*b*) Rupee 0–13–4 per maund.

(*c*) The Director's proposals are under examination. The Government are not aware of any recommendation on the subject made by the Legislative Council.

Leasing of the fishery rights in the tanks of Mudivasti and Dandigunta villages.

* 1543 *Q.*—Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that in respect of the fishery rights in the tanks of Mudivasti and Dandigunta villages in Kovur taluk, Nellore district, the Public Works Department put them up for auction and confirmed the lease in favour of certain persons while the Fishery department afterwards chose different lessees by private negotiation and confirmed the lease on them; and

(*b*) whether the Government will be pleased to lay down a principle for the guidance of the officers of all the departments under them to avoid the recurrence of such inconsistent actions?

A.—(*a*) The Government have no information regarding the tank in the Dandigunta village. As regards the tank in the other village, auction sale was not confirmed in favour of the highest bidder when sanction was accorded to the lease of the fishery in the tank to a different person.

(*b*) General instructions are already in force and the Government have also under consideration the issue of further instructions to the officers of the Fisheries Department in regard to the procedure to be adopted in connexion with the lease of fishery rights in tanks taken over by them for stocking and development.

Medical

Appointment of women medical officers for treatment of venereal diseases.

* 1544 *Q.*—Dr. (Mrs.) S. Muthulakshmi Reddi: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state with reference to the answer given to clause (*c*) of question 558 asked at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 18th October 1927—

(*a*) whether the Government will consider the desirability of providing adequate facilities for the treatment of women patients suffering from venereal diseases by women doctors in all the hospitals as obtains even in European countries;

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(*b*) whether the Government have considered the difficulty to which female patients suffering from such diseases in the areas served by the Rayapuram and the General Hospitals are put in the absence of women doctors for their treatment in the above hospitals, in being asked to undertake a distant journey to the Victoria Caste and Gosha Hospital or to the Hospital for Women and Children, Egmore, for treatment of such diseases; and

(*c*) whether the Government have considered the fact that women medical officers, if appointed in charge of venereal clinics will be able to train the students as well as men doctors can do?

A.—(*a*) As already stated, the Government do not consider that there is any urgent need for the appointment of lady doctors to the hospitals in which they are not at present employed.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) The Government have had no occasion to examine the question.

Dr. (Mrs.) S. MUTHULAKSHMI REDDI:—"Will the hon. Minister consider the desirability of appointing a woman doctor to be in charge of the new venereal block for women patients when it is opened in the General Hospital?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"I shall certainly consider the matter, Sir."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATHI MUDALIYAR:—"With reference to the answer to clause (*a*) stating that there is no urgent need for the appointment of women doctors, may I know whether they called for any figures from the Surgeon-General regarding the number of women patients."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"No, Sir."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA:—"What is the ratio of female patients and male patients suffering from venereal disease?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"I am not aware, Sir."

Employment of lady assistant surgeons in the Government Hospital for Women and Children, Egmore.

*1545 Q.—Dr. (Mrs.) S. MUTHULAKSHMI REDDI: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware of the fact that the majority of the Indian women prefer attendance by their own sex during confinement;

(*b*) if the answer to clause (*a*) be in the affirmative, whether the Government propose to employ a certain proportion of lady assistant surgeons in the staff of the Government Hospital for Women and Children, Egmore;

(*c*) whether the Government will consider the desirability of giving a post-graduate training in the Maternity Hospital to all the women graduates that pass out of the Madras Medical College before they are sent to the mufassal to be in independent charge of dispensaries or hospitals; and

(*d*) if the answer to clause (*c*) be in the negative, the reasons therefor?